

all civil hospitals in the Republic, it is his intention to make the same rule in military hospitals. A year ago the infirmary of the School of Artillery and Engineering at Fontainebleau was placed under male nurses instead of sisters of mercy, but before proceeding further, the Minister wishes to assure himself of the means of replacing the sisters by properly trained male or female nurses. At present there are about twenty schools in France for the training of nurses, and new ones are being created at Nancy and Bordeaux, so it is anticipated that there will soon be an adequate supply of trained nurses."

A meeting of superintendents of nursing was held recently in Chicago for the purpose of considering a plan looking to the control of the matter of applicants for positions as pupil nurses. The hospitals of Chicago, according to the superintendents at this meeting, are overrun with applicants for positions as nurses, most of whom are without training or adaptability. To remedy this it is planned that applicants at all the hospitals be directed to a central bureau. The bureau, which is to be under the auspices of the Illinois Association of Graduate Nurses, will examine the applicants and give those who are selected a three months' training before they are given any real hospital work. This, in effect, will be a central nursing school for preliminary training for Chicago. Thus one after another of the big American cities are taking up preliminary education in a practical way.

The official organ of the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association pays a just meed of praise to Miss M'Gahey upon her resignation of the position of Lady Superintendent to the Prince Alfred Hospital at Sydney.

"Members will learn with regret," it states, "that Miss M'Gahey has, from ill-health, resigned her position of Matron of Prince Alfred Hospital, a post which she has filled with conspicuous ability for twelve years. During that time she has revolutionised the nursing of the hospital, and has brought it to such a pitch of perfection that Prince Alfred nurses are, in point of training, second to none, and are in great demand both for hospital appointments and private work. In nursing matters Miss M'Gahey set before herself a high ideal, and succeeded in inspiring those under her with the same enthusiasm. Never sparing herself in what she considered her duty to the hospital, she has unfortunately overtaxed her strength, and feels that a temporary cessation from her duties necessary. Miss M'Gahey was the first Hon. Secretary of our Association, and it is mainly due to the untiring exertion and devotion of herself and a few others that we are to-day in our strong position. All will join in wishing her a speedy return to strength, and the hope that, after

a brief holiday, she will return to help in directing our councils, and in maintaining the high standard of nursing that she has created in our midst. In Miss M'Gahey Prince Alfred Hospital has lost one whom it will be hard to replace."

Whilst English nurses are beginning quite to enjoy taking part in meetings and discussions, and to realise that if they open their lips to speak of what they know no one will jump down their throats or hustle them off to the Tower, it is amusing to find that the editor of the *Australasian Nurses' Journal* observes encouragingly:—

"To the onlooker, it is surprising how difficult it is to obtain from nurses at any meetings verbal expression of their views, even on subjects of burning interest to themselves. Comment after the event is of little value. It is while the meetings are in progress that their views should be voiced. We hope that, in future, nurses will be less diffident in the matter, and that they will also avail themselves of their *Journal* as a medium for expressing their ideas. It is not necessary that letters should be signed, provided that the writer's name and address be enclosed."

It is no good blinking the fact. It has been amply proved that in meetings of nurses—where amongst themselves they feel on "their native heath"—they now pop up without much ado, and say their say; but so long as medical men are present, taking precedence of them in their own associations, they will remain diffident and dumb. It is their nature to.

### The Passing Bell.

We regret to record the death of Miss Alice Gertrude Bailey, daughter of Mr. Edward Bailey, M.R.C.V.S., Leicester, which took place at Guy's Hospital, London, last week. She entered Guy's Hospital as a nurse in February last, and whilst performing her duties there contracted typhoid fever, from which she died. A memorial service, held at Guy's Hospital chapel previous to the body being conveyed to Leicester, on Thursday, the 26th ult., was attended by members of the medical staff, the Matron, and about 100 nurses of the hospital. The first portion of the burial service was conducted at St. George's Church, Leicester, by the Rev. H. E. Sherlock, M.A. (vicar), and the interment took place at the Welford Road Cemetery. Wreaths were sent by members of her family and a number of friends, and also by the nursing staff of Guy's Hospital, the house physicians and clinicals of the hospital, the Sister and nurses of Clinical Ward, Esther Ward, and her fellow pupils, and Sister Enid and Sister Ada.

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